

REMARKS

Claims 5-10 and 18-37 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-4 and 11-17 have been canceled. Claims 5 and 8-9 have been amended. New claims 20-37 are added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request allowance of this application.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification stands objected to for containing several informalities. In particular, line 2 of paragraph 16, line 3 of paragraph 41, line 6 of paragraph 42, line 2 of paragraph 43, lines 4, 6, and 8 of paragraph 50, and line 2 of paragraph 51 stand objected to for containing various informalities. Applicants have made appropriate corrections to these paragraphs as suggested by the Examiner. In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants believe that all objections to the specification are now moot, and thus, respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these objections.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 9 has been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. In view of the above amendment, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, second paragraph, rejection to claim 9.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(E)

Claims 5-10 and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,609,221 to Coyle et al. ("Coyle" herein). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

A. Claim 5-10 are patentable over the art.

Claim 5 recites:

*when a request type of the transaction matches a triggering condition,
generating a data request, and
generating a harassing bus transaction based on the data request*

The Examiner contends that FIG. 2B of “Coyle discloses capturing a bus transaction, and upon meeting a loop-back condition, generating an echo cycle, which is interpreted as a harassing bus transaction.” Applicants respectfully disagree.

In FIG. 2B, Coyle discloses a loop-back testing method in which a first device (or a first agent) sends a stimulus cycle (a predetermined testing pattern) over a bus to a second device. When the stimulus cycle is received, no matter what testing pattern is received at the second device, the second device generates an echo cycle (an exact copy of the stimulus cycles) and forwards it back to the first device. See Coyle, col. 6, lines 9-33. Coyle, however, does not disclose anything having to do with a request type. Coyle certainly does not disclose conditioning the response of the second device based on the requested type. Instead, the second device echoes back everything it sees. Thus, Coyle fails to disclose *when a request type of the transaction matches a triggering condition, generating a data request*.

For at least these reasons, independent claim 5 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 6-10, which depend from claim 5, are also patentable over the art.

B. Claims 18 and 19 are patentable over the art.

Claim 18 recites:

*counting a number of external bus cycles that occur without onset of a
new transaction on the external bus,
when the number meets a predetermined threshold, generating a
harassing transaction on the external bus*

The Examiner alleges that claim 18 is anticipated because “Coyle discloses a bus protocol that only allows bus lines to be asserted during certain times and has a “dead time” between bus cycles.” Applicants respectfully disagree.

While it is true that Coyle discloses a bus protocol which allows bus lines to be asserted only during certain times and has a “dead time” between bus cycles, it fails to anticipate claim 18. Coyle says nothing about *counting* a number of external bus cycles. Coyle is also silent on

generating a harassing transaction on the external bus when the transaction matches a triggering condition—namely, if the number of external bus cycles that occur without onset of a new transaction on the external bus meets a predetermined threshold. Accordingly, independent claim 18 is patentable over the art. Claim 19, which depends from claim 18, is also patentable.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All claims are allowable over the cited art. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the application.

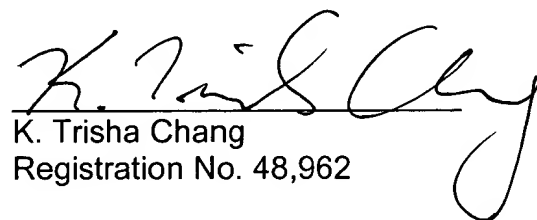
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4235 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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